WCAX

Congressman Peter Welch is working to solve problems across party lines.

Welch is one of the founders for a new group called "The Problem Solvers." He characterized the group as a group of lawmakers working to break the gridlock in Congress. The bi-partisan group started out of frustration with Congress being a quote "debating society." The Congressman says the goal is to move away from endless debate, and instead focus on finding common ground.

"Pick issues then find the common ground. Like for instance, on energy, there's a lot of debate about energy policy and climate change. But there's a lot of agreement on energy efficiency. That can create jobs, help the environment, and save money. For folks who are paying their mortgage every month but can't refinance because of their appraisals, there's a lot of agreement we should find a way to help them. So, my approach on this is to try to define that portion of the problem where we do agree, where we will have common ground, and make progress there," said Welch.

Welch says currently the group is made up of 15 Democrats and 15 Republicans. He hopes to eventually have 75 members.